

Submitter: Claudia Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

I am a school counselor at a Spanish immersion elementary, Lent ES. The school provides essential services to the Latino community and such a wonderful supportive learning environment for our children. However, our class sizes are too big so that children that require more learning support are not getting enough. Our learning specialists do a great job supplementing for our students that need extra support. We cannot cut these essential teachers even more! We need more teachers, not less, smaller classes, not bigger. School counselors like myself work to our capacity and provide so much needed support to students dealing with poverty at home, abuse, neglect, and trauma from racism and immigration processes. Many of our students are scared hearing the way our president speaks about them and their families. Counselors and teachers are there for them. Our social worker creates amazing community events that brings parents, teachers, and students together in crucial ways. We are already stretched to our limits and cannot afford budget cuts or staffing cuts. Please make the right decision and fund our amazing schools!

Best,

Claudia Brown